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Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

Letter dated 31 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement by the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against the Republic of Cuba (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43.

(*Signed*) V. **Nebenzia**

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Annex to the letter dated 31 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against the Republic of Cuba

The Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation strongly condemns the economic, commercial and financial embargo against the Republic of Cuba by the United States of America, and expresses its support for the fraternal Cuban people, which has spent over half a century — with dedication and in very difficult geopolitical circumstances — defending its sovereignty and its inalienable democratic right to choose its own development model. The status of the Republic of Cuba as a peace-loving, internationally-respected nation that favours a constructive approach in international relations as a matter of tradition is beyond dispute.

The international community must regard the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba as a clear act of economic aggression. The implementation of a United States policy inspired by a revived Monroe Doctrine is rejected by the States Members of the United Nations. Despite the blatant efforts of the United States Administration to pressure the delegations of those States, a United Nations General Assembly resolution on the necessity of ending the embargo against the Republic of Cuba has been adopted by an absolute majority of votes every year. For decades, the United States of America has been ignoring the resolution, and therefore standing in opposition to the will of the United Nations.

The current tightening of the embargo and the unacceptable threatening rhetoric directed at Havana by the United States Administration is seriously damaging the Cuban economy and creating an obstacle to the greater well-being of the Cuban people. There is absolutely no justification for the attempts made by Washington to link the lifting of the embargo against Cuba with the human rights situation in the country, or for United States of America to claim the right to decide for others what political system and institutions they must have.

The Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation calls upon the United States of America to implement the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and calls upon the United States Congress to repeal without delay the legislation relating to the economic, commercial and financial embargo against the Republic of Cuba.

The Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation reaffirms the position set out in its statement adopted on 25 October 2017 on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against the Republic of Cuba.

The Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation continues to support the Cuban people, a people which has withstood many years of humanitarian deprivations and restrictions while defending its freedom and independence. The Federation Council calls upon the United Nations General Assembly, the parliaments of the States Members of the United Nations and international parliamentary organizations to lend support, on 31 October 2018, to the draft resolution of the seventy-third session of the United Nations General Assembly proposed by the Republic of Cuba on the necessity of ending the economic,

commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against the Republic of Cuba.

Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation